



Fishing Gear Damage or Loss Claim Process

Golden State Wind LLC (GSW) recognizes that fishing interests and the Project will share common space in the offshore waters of California, and both fishing interests and the Project will harvest a resource to benefit of the citizens of the United States. GSW also recognizes shared use of the Project area may result in interaction between GSW and commercial fishing gear.

GSW believes that with proper planning, outreach, regular communication, and training, fishing gear loss and/or damage from interactions can be avoided or minimized. The following outlines GSW’s approach to managing unintentional interactions, as well as GSW’s claim process should an unintentional interaction occur:

<p>Outreach</p> <p>The Fisheries Liaison (FL) will serve as the primary point of contact for issues related to fishing community stakeholders and unintentional interactions. The FL conducts extensive outreach according to GSW’s Fisheries Communications Plan (FCP) and interacts with commercial and recreational fishermen and fishermen’s organizations, management authorities, and support services to identify fishing community stakeholders that operate in areas where project activities are planned.</p>
<p>Communications and Planning</p> <p>GSW, through the FL, will provide Mariner Updates and LNMs and BNMs to the United States Coast Guard (USCG) to share operational updates, names of active vessels, activities being conducted and the specific areas of operations. This information will be posted on GSW’s website once it is available.</p> <p>If gear is located within the work area, GSW will attempt to identify and contact the owner. Each offshore vessel contracted by GSW will also communicate early and often with fishing vessels operating in the area of survey activities, while following the USCG “Rules of the Road.”</p>
<p>Fisheries Briefing</p> <p>GSW’s contractors, including survey vessel Masters, bridge officers, survey crew, Protected Species Observers (PSOs), and their support staff are briefed on local fisheries, their respective seasons and gear types, how to identify, record, and avoid fishing gear, and the importance of coordinating with local and regional fishermen and fishing associations.</p> <p>Onboard personnel observe and record fishing activities and the location of fixed fishing gear for future reference and avoidance. Fishing vessel sightings and gear information are communicated to the FL for follow up, as necessary.</p> <p>Should an unintentional interaction occur, GSW’s contractors are briefed in how to respond to the event safely and responsibly, document the interaction, and report it to the FL. The FL will then follow up with the vessel operator and gather feedback to improve communications on vessel activities going forward.</p>
<p>Filing a Claim</p> <p>If you experienced gear loss or damage that you believe was caused by or the result of GSW’s activities, please follow the instructions below to submit a claim:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. As soon as it is safe to do so, report the incident via phone or email to the FL and GSW:



Rachel Mahler
Fisheries Liaison
rachel.mahler@oceanwinds.com
805-680-8138

2. Within 30 days of the incident, submit a complete, legible, executed Claim Form to the above listed FL.

Claim Review

All Claim Forms will be reviewed by the FL and GSW. Within 30 days of receipt of a complete Claim Form, the Applicant will receive a written response, which may include a request for additional information. If the claim is confirmed, payment will be arranged with the Applicant. If a claim is denied, a written explanation will be provided to the Applicant.

Gear interaction prevention methods should be followed by all parties. Once the wind farm has begun construction, when either compensation has been received by an applicant for gear loss caused by a known permanent hazard in a given area, or GSW has shared the coordinates of the known hazard with pertinent fishermen and/or fishing associations, the owner of the gear is considered to be aware of the potential hazard. GSW reserves the right to deny claims for subsequent gear loss by the same applicant from the same hazard. This reservation does not apply to gear losses caused by temporary hazards during survey and construction. Any payment in connection with a filed claim will be considered a full release. GSW reserves the right to request additional information to support the review of the claim.

Please note that BOEM is reviewing guidelines for mitigating impacts on fisheries by offshore wind development and the California Coastal Commission (CCC) is has established the 7C Fisheries Working Group to develop a statewide strategy for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation of impacts to fishing and fisheries. This strategy will include but isn't limited to protocols for communication and a framework for compensatory mitigation. GSW intends to update the claims process once these guidelines are finalized.

[CLAIM FORM APPEARS IN NEXT APPENDIX]



Gear Loss Claim Form (1 of 2)

Name:		Business Name:	
Address:		Phone Number:	
Homeport:		Email:	
Vessel Name:		Vessel Documentation #:	
State Permit(s) #:		Federal License #:	
Gear Type:	Date of Incident:	Beaufort:	
Time Gear was Set and Time Gear Haul Began:			

Specific Gear Location(s) (Lat/Long or Loran):

Gear Description (Distinct markings, flags, buoys, anchors, buoy lines, groundlines, hooks, gangions, floats, pots, traps etc.):



Description of Incident Causing Damage/Loss:	
Was any of the gear retrieved? If so, which parts of the gear was able to be retrieved and in what condition? (Attach photos):	
Quantity of lost tubs of gear, pots (rigid or slinky), buoys, anchors, floats, bites, hooks, lures, lights, gillnet etc. were lost or damaged:	
Was another vessel(s) observed in the area? If so, list the vessel name(s):	
Describe Normal Gear Configuration and Fishing Activity:	

Total Claim Amount	\$
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Gear Loss Claim Form (2 of 2)

Additional Information Required to Process Claim Form
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copy of valid Fishing Permit• Proof of landing history through fish tickets and/or logbooks, sales slip, or similar type of documentation that the vessel was fishing in the area for period of gear loss/damage., sales slip, or similar type of documentation that the vessel was fishing in the area for period of gear loss/damage.• Proof of ownership of the vessel capable of fishing area of loss, including photos.• Sales slip or gear invoice for replacement or repair gear (must be substantively like gear that was lost/damaged).• Location of gear loss/damage, either as GPS coordinates and/or photo of chart plotter.• Completed Form W-9.

I, _____, as the Applicant hereunder authorize Golden State Wind to make whatever reasonable inquiries and investigations it deems necessary to verify my application and request for reimbursement. Applicant understands that submitting this Application does not guarantee payment. Applicant further agrees that if this claim is accepted and paid in its entirety, that acceptance of such payment constitutes full, final and complete payment for this particular claim and that neither Golden State Wind, nor any of its affiliates shall have any further outstanding or ongoing obligation with respect to this particular claim and Applicant shall not, directly or indirectly, assert any claim, or commence, join in, prosecute, participate in, or fund any part of, any suit or other proceeding of any kind against Golden State Wind, or any of its affiliates, based upon this particular claim. If a claim is denied in part, Applicant may accept payment for the undisputed part without waiving Applicant's right to appeal the disputed part of the claim. Applicant recognizes that submission of this Application does not affect Applicant's rights concerning matters other than those specifically identified in this particular Application.

I attest, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of my knowledge the information in this Application is true and correct.

SIGNATURE _____
DATE

Please return this form and all required information, including a completed W-9 form, by one of the following methods:

- Deliver an electronic copy via email to the FL, Rachel Mahler at rachel.mahler@oceanwinds.com, with a copy to Golden State Wind Staff: Mark Roll, Permitting Senior Manager, mark.roll@oceanwinds.com
- Mail a copy to Golden State Wind, 3 Center Plaza, Suite 205, Boston, MA 02108.

Please note that payment cannot be processed without a signature and W-9 form.